

The logo for the Etchells regatta, featuring a stylized blue sail icon to the left of the word "Etchells" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

USA 979 wins Etchells 2008 Midwinters West

The 2008 Etchells Midwinters West were held March 29-30, 2008, at San Diego Yacht Club. Annually the largest West Coast Etchells event, this five-race regatta had 30 competitors coming from San Diego to Seattle plus a team from Houston.

The two days of racing featured 7 to 12 knots of breeze, large swells and chop—and of course Southern California sunshine. Upwind, the shifting breeze was a challenge for all the tacticians, while downwind, the big swells and chop put the spinnaker trimmers to the test.

While the racing was extremely tight, in the end Bill Hardesty and his crew of Steve Hunt, Mikee Anderson-Mitterling and Shone Bowman easily dominated the final scores after throwing out a 12th from Sunday's first race. The battle for second and third was settled on Sunday with the Camet family team edging out the Golison / Flam / McClintock team by two points.

For full results, see: http://sdyc.org/raceinfo/results08/etchellsMids_res.htm